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CLAIM LISTING:

A listing of the entire set of claims 1-40 is submitted herewith per 37 CFR §1.121. This listing of claims 1-40 will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A wireless network, comprising:
a radio network controller; and
a terminal,

wherein said radio network controller is operable to transmit a first message to said terminal, the first message being indicative of an initiation of a cipher key change, and

wherein said terminal is operable to transmit a second message to said radio network controller subsequent to a reception of the first message by said terminal, the second message being coded with a new cipher key as an acknowledgement of the cipher key change by said terminal.

10. (Previously Presented) The wireless network of claim 9, wherein the first message includes the new cipher key.

11. (Previously Presented) The wireless network of claim 9, wherein said radio network controller is operable to transmit a third message to said terminal subsequent to a reception of the second message by said radio network controller, the third message being indicative of a deciphering by said radio network controller of the second message with the new cipher key.

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12. (Previously Presented) The wireless network of claim 11, wherein the third message is coded with the new cipher key as an indication that said radio network controller deciphered the second message with the new cipher key.
13. (Previously Presented) The wireless network of claim 9, wherein said radio network controller includes means for verifying a use of the new cipher key by said terminal subsequent to a reception of the second message by said radio network controller.
14. (Previously Presented) The wireless network of claim 9, wherein said radio network controller and said terminal include means for synchronizing a conversion from an old cipher key to the new cipher key.
15. (Previously Presented) The wireless network of claim 9, wherein said radio network controller is operable to transmit a third message to said terminal subsequent to a reception of the second message by said radio network controller, the third message being indicative of a failure by said radio network controller to decipher the second message with the new cipher key.
16. (Previously Presented) The wireless network of claim 15, wherein the third message is coded with an old cipher key as an indication that said radio network controller failed to decipher the second message with the new cipher key.
17. (Previously Presented) A radio network controller, comprising:
 - means for transmitting a first message to a terminal, the first message being indicative of an initiation of a cipher key change; and
 - means for receiving a second message from the terminal subsequent to a reception of the first message by the terminal, the second message being coded with a new cipher key as an acknowledgement of the cipher key change by the terminal.

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18. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller of claim 17, wherein the first message includes the new cipher key.
19. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller of claim 17, wherein said radio network controller further includes means for transmitting a third message to the terminal subsequent to a reception of the second message by said radio network controller, the third message being indicative of a deciphering by said radio network controller of the second message with the new cipher key.
20. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller of claim 19, wherein the third message is coded with the new cipher key as an indication that said radio network controller deciphered the second message with the new cipher key.
21. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller of claim 17, wherein said radio network controller further includes means for verifying a use of the new cipher key by said terminal subsequent to a reception of the second message by said radio network controller.
22. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller of claim 17, wherein said radio network controller includes means for synchronizing a conversion from an old cipher key to the new cipher key.
23. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller of claim 17, wherein said radio network controller further includes means for transmitting a third message to the terminal subsequent to a reception of the second message by said radio network controller, the third message being indicative of a failure by said radio network controller to decipher the second message with the new cipher key.

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24. (Previously Presented) The radio controller network of claim 23, wherein the third message is coded with an old cipher key as an indication that said radio network controller failed to decipher the second message with the new cipher key.

25. (Previously Presented) A terminal, comprising:
means for receiving a first message from a radio network controller, the first message being indicative of an initiation of a cipher key change; and
means for transmitting a second message to the radio network controller subsequent to a reception of the first message by the terminal, the second message being coded with a new cipher key as an acknowledgement of the cipher key change by the terminal.

26. (Previously Presented) The terminal of claim 25, wherein said terminal further includes means for receiving a third message from the radio network controller subsequent to a reception of the second message by the radio network controller, the third message being indicative of a deciphering by the radio network controller of the second message with the new cipher key.

27. (Previously Presented) The terminal of claim 25, wherein said terminal includes means for synchronizing a conversion from an old cipher key to the new cipher key.

28. (Previously Presented) The terminal of claim 25, wherein said terminal further includes means for receiving a third message from the radio network controller subsequent to a reception of the second message by the radio network controller, the third message being indicative of a failure by the radio network controller to decipher the second message with the new cipher key.

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29. (Previously Presented) A method of operating a wireless network including a radio network controller and a terminal, the method comprising:

the radio network controller transmitting a first message to the terminal, the first message being indicative of an initiation of a cipher key change involving an old cipher key and a new cipher key; and

the terminal transmitting a second message to the radio network controller subsequent to a reception of the first message by the terminal from the radio network controller, the second message being coded with one of the old cipher key or the new cipher key as an acknowledgement of the cipher key change by the terminal.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

the radio network controller transmitting a third message to the terminal subsequent to a reception of the second message by the radio network controller from the terminal, the third message being coded with one of the old cipher key or the new cipher key as an indication of one of a successful termination or an unsuccessful termination of the cipher key change.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

the radio network controller and the terminal validating the new cipher key.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

the radio network controller and the terminal synchronizing a conversion of the old cipher key to the new cipher key.

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33. (Previously Presented) A radio network controller, comprising:

means for transmitting a first message to a terminal, the first message being indicative of an initiation of a cipher key change involving an old cipher key and a new cipher key; and

means for receiving a second message from the terminal subsequent to a reception of the first message by the terminal from the radio network controller, the second message being coded with one of the old cipher key or the new cipher key as an acknowledgement of the cipher key change by the terminal.

34. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller of claim 33, further comprising:

means for transmitting a third message to the terminal subsequent to a reception of the second message by the radio network controller from the terminal, the third message being coded with one of the old cipher key or the new cipher key as an indication of one of a successful termination or an unsuccessful termination of the cipher key change.

35. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller of claim 33, further comprising:

means for validating the new cipher key.

36. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller of claim 33, further comprising:

means for synchronizing a conversion of the old cipher key to the new cipher key.

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37. (Previously Presented) A terminal, comprising:

means for receiving a first message from a radio network controller, the first message being indicative of an initiation of a cipher key change involving an old cipher key and a new cipher key; and

means for transmitting a second message to the radio network controller subsequent to a reception of the first message by the terminal from the radio network controller, the second message being coded with one of the old cipher key or the new cipher key as an acknowledgement of the cipher key change by the terminal.

38. (Previously Presented) The terminal of claim 37, further comprising:

means for receiving a third message from the radio network controller subsequent to a reception of the second message by the radio network controller from the terminal, the third message being coded with one of the old cipher key or the new cipher key as an indication of one of a successful termination or an unsuccessful termination of the cipher key change.

39. (Previously Presented) The terminal of claim 37, further comprising:

means for validating the new cipher key.

40. (Previously Presented) The terminal of claim 37, further comprising:

means for synchronizing a conversion of the old cipher key to the new cipher key.